

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/029,343

Applicant(s)

BROWN ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Barry W. Taylor

2643

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 7/18/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2, 8-18 renumbered as claims 1-12.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 07 May 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

DETAILED ACTION

1. The Examiner's previous Office Action made final on (5/26/05) is vacated.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 2, 8-18 renumbered as claims 1-12 are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance.

Prior art of record fails to teach a method for billing services in a communication network, comprising: bridging at a service node within the network a first call made by a calling party with a second call established to a called party to create a bridged call; processing the bridged call in accordance with signaling information associated therewith to create a processed call; creating a billing module for the processed call that includes billing information associated therewith; and merging the processed call and billing module into a service switching point as recited in independent claims 2, 8, 12, 13 and 16 (renumbered as claims 1, 2, 6, 7 and 10) and shown in figure 1.

Prior art of record (6,625,268) Wallenius teaches billing supplementary services in an intelligent network wherein the Service Control Point forms the call price information and the Service Switching Point is only used to report events to SCP verses using the Service Switching Point to merge billing information thereby allowing the Service Switching Point (i.e. service node) to use its resources to process other calls requiring services as recited in Applicants independent claims 2, 8, 12, 13 and 16 renumbered as claims 1, 2, 6, 7 and 10 (see paper dated 11/17/04, starting at the bottom of page 6 and continuing to page 10).

Prior art of record (6,611,582) Book et al also teaches the SCP used for creating billing information and sends it to billing server (see abstract, col. 5 lines 30-43) so that SSP can be charged for their use of SCP queries verses using the Service Switching Point to merge billing information thereby allowing the Service Switching Point (i.e. service node) to use its resources to process other calls requiring services as recited in Applicants independent claims 2, 8, 12, 13 and 16 renumbered as claims 1, 2, 6, 7 and 10 (see paper dated 11/17/04, starting at the bottom of page 6 and continuing to page 10).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Barry W. Taylor, telephone number (571) 272-7509, who is available Monday-Friday, 8am to 5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Curtis Kuntz, can be reached at (571) 272-7499. The central facsimile phone number for this group is **571-273-8300**.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group 2600 receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-2600, the 2600 Customer Service telephone number is (571) 272-2600.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Centralized Delivery Policy: For patent related correspondence, hand carry deliveries must be made to the Customer Service Window (now located at the Randolph

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Building, 401 Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA 22314), and facsimile transmissions must be sent to the central fax number (571-273-8300).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "BWT". The letters are stylized and connected.

Barry W. Taylor
Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2600
Art Unit 2643